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[ X ] Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.8, I hereby certify that this paper and all enclosures are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail No. EV337120897US on the date indicated below in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

[ ] Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.6(d), I hereby certify that this paper and all enclosures are being sent via facsimile on the date indicated below to the attention of Examiner \_\_\_\_\_ at Facsimile No \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m.

Dated: March 17, 2004

**Name of Person Certifying:**  
**Printed Name:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Melissa Sanchez

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Van Le Huynh et al.

) Group Art Unit: Unknown

Application No.: Unknown

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Filing Date: Herewith

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For: LOW-PROFILE HEART VALVE SEWING RING

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## PRELIMINARY REMARKS

**Mail Stop Patent Application**  
**Commissioner for Patents**  
**P.O. Box 1450**  
**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Dear Sir:

The present application is a continuation of Serial No. 09/585,098, filed on June 6, 2000, entitled LOW PROFILE HEART VALVE SEWING RING. The following changes have been made relative to the parent specification. No new matter has been added.

Amendments to the Specification are described on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are described on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.